

REACH



Pueblo Chemical Depot Community Outreach Office

1st Quarter, Winter 2002

RCRA Process for Chemical Disposal Facility Begins in Pueblo

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, or RCRA, ensures the safe treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste generated nationwide. RCRA is implemented by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and in most states, the EPA has delegated authority for RCRA oversight to the state environmental agency. RCRA regulates the management of hazardous waste from the moment it is generated until final disposal.

All of the Army's chemical agent disposal facilities are subject to RCRA and must obtain a permit before construction of disposal facilities can begin. This includes the disposal facility planned for Pueblo Chemical Depot, regardless of which disposal technology is chosen.

Obtaining a permit requires oversight from both federal EPA and the state environmental agency, which in the depot's case is the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division. Public participation is also required throughout the permitting process.

To receive a RCRA permit, the Army must submit a detailed permit application

describing how the chemical disposal facility will be built and operated to comply with RCRA regulations fully protective of human health and the environment.

Prior to submitting the permit application, the Army's Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization and the Program Manager for Assembled Chemical Weapons Assessment held a joint pre-application meeting to inform the public of its intent to submit an application and to obtain comments. This pre-application meeting was held November 29 in two locations, Avondale and Pueblo.

The permit application for the Pueblo Chemical Depot disposal facility will be submitted after a disposal technology decision is made. The pre-application meeting is being held before the technology decision so that regardless of what technology is selected for Pueblo, the permit application can be submitted immediately following the technology decision. If the Army waited until a technology was selected for Pueblo to hold a pre-application meeting, the timeframe for the destruction of the stockpile at Pueblo would be lengthened by approximately two months.

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Pueblo Chemical Depot Community Outreach Office
45825 Highway 96 East
Building 1
Pueblo, CO
81006-9330

Outreach Office Hours

Monday–Friday
8:30 a.m.–5 p.m.
Other hours by
appointment

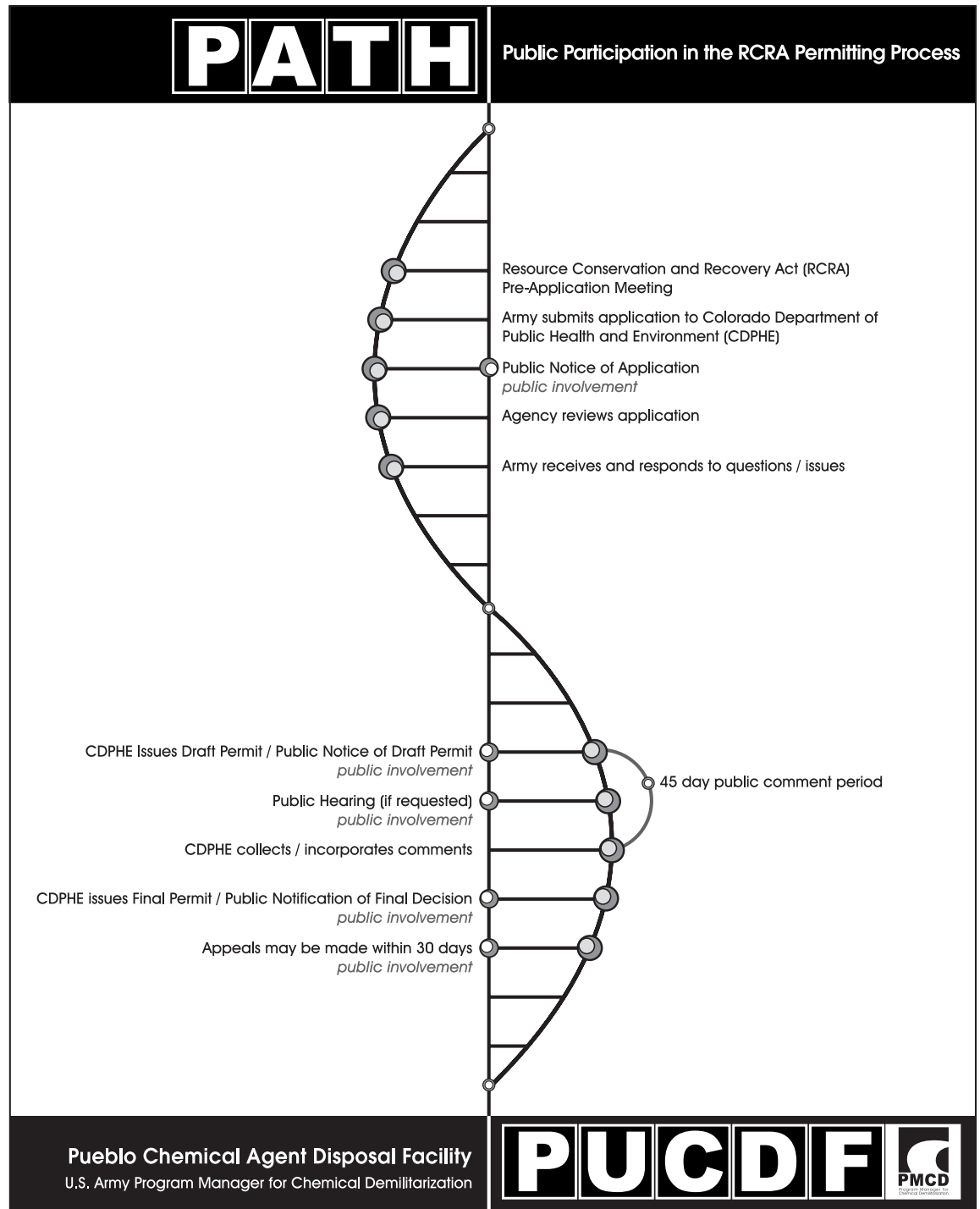
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When the draft application is submitted by the Army, the state and EPA review the application, request additional information and/or clarification, develop draft permit conditions, and then issue the draft permit for public comment. During this comment

period on the draft permit, there will be a public hearing. After comments are received and incorporated, a final RCRA permit may be issued. Every 10 years thereafter, the permit must be renewed.



If You Can't Visit Us, We'd Like to Visit You

The Pueblo Chemical Depot Outreach Office is in a unique situation compared to other outreach offices at chemical stockpile sites around the country. The Pueblo outreach office is the only outreach office located on a military installation. The other outreach offices are located in high traffic areas of the community close to the stockpile site.

Immediately after terrorist attacks on September 11, Army officials tightened security at all military installations around the country. The same holds true for the Pueblo Chemical Depot. The depot now remains closed to the public, unless individuals have official business. Depot tours have been cancelled indefinitely.

The outreach office staff would be delighted to come to your civic organization, church, business, school or neighborhood group and familiarize you with the outreach office's many resources. The outreach office can provide displays, pamphlets, brochures and videotapes to inform you about the chemical weapons disposal program currently underway at Pueblo Chemical Depot. No group is too small. We have material that is suitable for middle school age children through college level.

You say you don't want a formal presentation? The outreach office also has a free-standing public display unit that outreach staff can set up at your

business, church or school providing the same chemical weapons disposal program information, but in a self-service style setting.

If you would like to schedule a presentation or set up a block of time to use the public display unit, please call (719) 549-4877 for more information.



Sunflowers are a common sight through much of the year at the Pueblo Chemical Depot.



We want to hear from you

The Pueblo Chemical Depot Outreach Office serves as a clearinghouse of information about the Army's plans for chemical weapons disposal in Pueblo. Together with the depot's Public Affairs Office, the Outreach Office coordinates a variety of events designed to help keep the community informed and involved.

If you would like more information about the opportunities available through the Pueblo Chemical Depot Outreach Office, please call (719) 549-4877, or return this form by mail or fax to:

**Pueblo Chemical Depot
Outreach Office
45825 Highway 96 East, Bldg. 1
Pueblo, CO 81006-9330
Fax: (719) 549-4871**

Please check the boxes below that interest you:

- ☐ I would like to be added to the depot's free mailing list.
- ☐ I would like to receive a free information packet in the mail.
- ☐ I would like to learn more about arranging a free presentation for my club/organization/school/workplace.
- ☐ Other _____

If you checked any of the boxes above, please complete the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone (optional): _____

E-mail (optional): _____



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Pueblo, Colo. 81006-9330

